

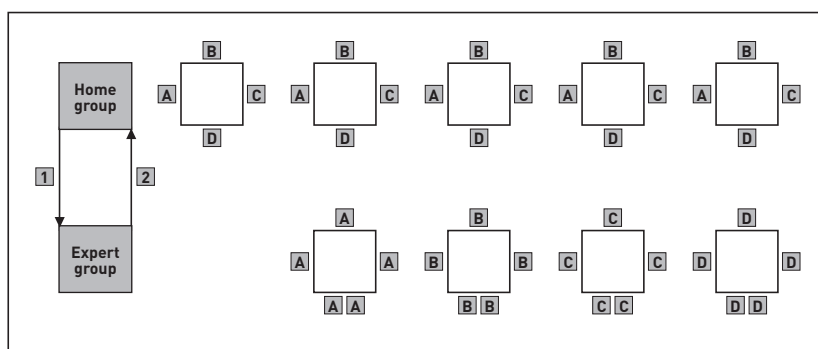
Jigsaw

Purpose

A cooperative learning technique involving the use of 'home' groups and 'expert' groups to share responsibility for learning.

Process

- Decide on the broad topic and the number of smaller aspects to be learnt.
- Set up several home groups, the size of which is equal to the number of aspects to be learnt.
- Assign the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and so on to each participant.
- Invite like-numbered participants to form expert groups to learn about one smaller aspect of the whole topic. Experts discuss and record ideas about their aspect of the topic.
- Participants from the expert groups return to their home groups to teach about their aspect.
- Keep a record of the learning during the teaching phase to facilitate the process.



Product

The jigsaw enables a broad topic to be broken down so that participants become expert in a part of the topic. The experts teach others about their aspect of the topic, which contributes to the learning of the home group.

PrimaryConnections examples

- Learn about the literacy focuses, assessment practices or activities in one of the 5Es phases of a curriculum unit.
- Learn about the science investigation process: planning, conducting, interpreting and representing, evaluating and communicating.
- Examine various aspects of the teacher background information in a curriculum unit.

Reference

Aronson, E. (1978). *The Jigsaw Classroom*. Beverly Hills: Sage Publications.